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May 20, 1999

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD PRESIDING

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: Good morning. Welcome to the George W. Norris Legislative Chamber for the eighty-fifth day...eighty-sixth day...eighty-fifth day of the Ninety-Sixth Legislature, First Session. Our chaplain this morning is Father John Rooney, St. Gregory The Great Seminary in Seward, Senator Stuhr's district. Good morning.

FATHER ROONEY: (Prayer offered.)

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: Thank you, Father Rooney, for joining us this morning. Members, we will call to order the eighty-fifth day of this legislative session if you'll record your presence. Mr. Clerk, please record.

CLERK: I have a quorum present, Mr. President.

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: Thank you, Mr. Clerk. Are there any corrections for the Journal?

CLERK: I have no corrections, Mr. President.

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: Are there any messages, reports or announcements?

CLERK: Not at this time, Mr. President. No messages, reports, nor announcements.

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: Thank you, Mr. Clerk. First item, Legislative Confirmation Reports.

CLERK: Mr. President, Government Committee reports on the appointments to the Nebraska State Emergency Response Commission. The report is on page 2223.

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: Thank you, Mr. Clerk. Members, if we can hold our conversations down, we'll begin today's busy schedule. Senator Schimek, you're recognized to open on the confirmation report of the Government Committee.

SENATOR SCHIMEK: Yes, thank you, Mr. President and members of